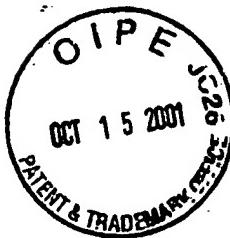


Oct-10-01 10:14am From:

T-844 P.002/004 F-903



(B)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 40843C US

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a named inventor, I hereby declare, of my own knowledge or on information and belief that:

My residence, post office address and country of citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I am the original, first and sole inventor, if only one inventor is identified below, or an original, first and joint inventor, if more than one inventor is identified below, of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought and which is entitled:

PROCESS FOR CUTTING AN OPTICAL FIBER

and which is described and claimed:

- in the attached application including specification and claims if this line is marked, or
 in the original specification and claims filed on June 12, 2001 as U.S. Patent Application Number 09/880,698 or PCT International Application Number _____.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification and the claims;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of the application in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56(a). The text of 37 CFR §1.56(a) states,

"A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which

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is not material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by 35 U.S.C. 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of the disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine: 1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and 2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office;"

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Provisional Application No.: 60/229,787
Filing Date: September 1, 2000

This application is a continuation pursuant to 35 USC §120 of each prior application (if any is identified) identified as follows:

U.S. Serial No.: _____ Status: _____
U.S. Filing Date: _____

This application is a continuation-in-part pursuant to 35 USC §120 of each prior application (if any is identified) identified as follows:

U.S. Serial No.: 09/395,352 Status: pending
U.S. Filing Date: September 14, 1999

and I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(a) which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I claim foreign priority, pursuant to 35 USC §119(a)-(d) of an application for patent or inventor's certificate, and identify below said application (if any is identified) and any such foreign application (if any is identified) having a filing date before that of the application on which foreign priority is claimed;

Application No.: 98117698.5 Country: EP
Filing Date: September 18, 1998

I hereby declare that all statements made of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and I am warned that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, (19 USC §1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby appoint Michael J. Arnoff (Registration No. 37770), Stephen J. Driscoll (Registration No. 37564), Robert J. Kapalka (Registration No. 34198) and Driscoll A. Nina, Jr. (Registration No. 34685) whose post office address is: Tyco Technology Resources, 4550 New Linden Hill Road, Suite 450, Wilmington, DE 19808-2952, or their duly appointed associate, my attorneys or agents with full powers of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive all Letters Patent, and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith.

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4550 New Linden Hill Road
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Wilmington, Delaware 19808-2952

Henricus Jozef VERGEEST
Full name of First Inventor

Inventor's Signature

Date

J. Vergeest 10/10/2001

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Antonius Petrus Cornelis Maria HULTEMANS
Full Name of Second Inventor

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Pieter STROOBACH

Full Name of Third Inventor

Inventor's Signature

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Citizenship / Residence

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U.S. Filing Date: _____ Status: _____

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U.S. Serial No.: 09/395,352
U.S. Filing Date: September 14, 1999 Status: pending

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Henricus Jozef VERGEEST

Full name of First Inventor

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Antonius Petrus Cornelis Maria HULTERMANS

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Pieter STROOBACH

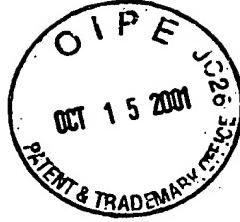
Full Name of Third Inventor

Inventor's Signature

12-9-2001

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Citizenship / Residence

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Post Office Address



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Antonius Petrus Cornelis Maria HULTERMANS
Full Name of Second Inventor

Inventor's Signature

13 Sept 2001

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